(c)and (d) Reserve Bank of India have reported that they have already identified a suitable person for appointment as Chairman of the bank on receipt of a panel of names from the bank in March, 1986. Actual appointment will be effected after completion of necessary formalities as required under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

Import of Sugar

824. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quantum of sugar imported during the last three years, year-wise and country-wise;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange spent thereon, year-wise; and

(c) whether any quantity of imported sugar was found to be contaminated; if so, what are the details in this regard and what action Government have taken against the officials found guilty on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The quantum of sugar imported and the amount of foreign exchange spent during the last three years are given below:—

Financial year	Quantity (Lakh tons)	ValueCIF (Rs. crores)
1983-84 . .	Nil	Nil
1984-85 . .	4·96	113·62
1985-86 (Provisional) . .	20·33	449·28

Country-wise details of sugar imported during 1984-85 and 1985-86 are given in the statement attached. (See below)

(c) A total quantity of about 14,700 tonnes of sugar of Brazilian origin was received in the vessel PAPHOS. First 8,500 tonnes of sugar were unloaded at Vizag Port and the balance quantity of about 6,200 tonnes of sugar was unloaded at Calcutta. While the consignment at Calcutta was cleared by Port Health Authorities, the sugar at Vizag was not cleared as Port Health Officers found a very small percentage of iron filings in the consignment. Deptt. of Food is looking into this matter in consultation with concerned authorities. A team of senior officials has been deputed to segregate the sugar into convenient lots for drawing samples and to analyse them for determining the percentage of iron filings in each lot.

Statement

Country-wise imports of sugar

Sl. No.	Country	Approx. Imports (lakh MT) during financial years	
		1984-85	1985-86
1	2	3	4
1	EEC	0·45	7·93
2	Brazil	2·68	3·34
3	China	..	1·69
4	S. Korea	0·72	1·20
5	Cuba	0·37	0·92
6	Poland	0·11	0·86

1	2	3	4
7	Thailand	..	0·81
8	Czechoslovakia	..	0·67
9	U.S.A.	..	0·63
10	[illegible]slavia	..	0·71
11	Philippines	0·35	0·48
12	Mauritius	..	0·13
13	Malaysia	..	0·12
14	Bulgaria	0·28	..
15	Vietnam	..	0·09
		4·96	19·51

Counterfeit Notes Deposited by Certain Banks and Southern Railway in Madras Office of Reserve Bank

825. SHRI K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank traced counterfeit notes in the currency bundles deposited at its Madras Office by certain banks and Southern Railway;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and whether any investigation has been made in this regard; if so, what action has been taken on the basis of investigation made; and

(c) whether any officials were found involved in this racket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Reserve Bank of India has reported details of forged notes detected during April-July, 1986 as follow:—

Month	Total Number (in million pieces)	Number of forged notes detected
		pieces
April . . .	28·77	27
May . . .	24·96	23
June . . .	28·64	23
July . . .	31·42	17

The matter has been referred by the Reserve Bank of India to the Police authorities for investigation.

Rubber Board

826. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount of subsidy given by the Rubber Board during the last three years, year-wise and the